



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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MEMBER
FINANCE, REVENUE, AND BONDING COMMITTEE
REGULATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

General Law Committee

Public Testimony

February 16, 2023

Testimony in support of: House Bill 6615

Chairmen Maroney and D'Agostino, Ranking Members Cicarella and Rutigliano and Distinguished Members of the General Law Committee, I write to you today in strong support of **House Bill 6615: An Act Concerning Dog Racing**.

As Co-Chair of the Animal Welfare Caucus I feel that this is an important piece of legislation for our state to enact, as many states within our country now prohibit the cruel unnecessary sport of greyhound racing. While greyhound racing has been on the decline for many years, it is time to have our laws mirror this trend through establishing further laws, regulations, and protections to prohibit greyhound racing in our state.

Our state once housed two greyhound racing facilities. While they both have closed, with many of these facilities now closing nationwide, this change in what was once a popular pastime is largely due to the hard work of our animal advocacy groups bringing us to the realization of how dogs are treated cruelly and inhumanely at these racetracks and moving us to collective action to do better.

It is my hope as well as the hope of the Animal Welfare Caucus that the Committee will vote favorably on HB 6615 to prohibit the operation of greyhound racing in our state.